

NEWS RELEASE

**Turkeys Raised
January 9, 2003**

2003 NORTH DAKOTA TURKEY PRODUCTION

North Dakota

Turkeys raised in North Dakota during 2002 totaled 1.90 million birds compared to 1.60 million in 2001, according to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. This is up 19 percent from 2001, but down 27 percent from the record high of 2.60 million turkeys raised in 1997. Since 1990, turkeys raised in North Dakota have ranged from a low of 1.15 million turkeys in 1993 and 1994 to the record high in 1997.

As of December 2002, producers intended to raise 2.10 million turkeys in 2003, up 11 percent from last year. The number of birds raised in 2003 may vary from growers' intentions depending on feed cost, supply of hatching eggs, cost of poults and prices growers receive for turkeys during the next few months.

United States

Turkeys raised in the United States during 2002 totaled 272 million birds, up fractionally from the 272 million raised in 2001. North Carolina ranked first in the number raised with 45.5 million, followed by Minnesota with 44.0 million, Arkansas with 29.5 million, Missouri with 25.5 million, Virginia with 20.0 million, California with 17.7 million, and Indiana with 13.0 million. These States accounted for 72 percent of the turkeys produced in the United States during 2002.

Turkey growers in 23 States intend to decrease the number of birds raised by 2 percent in 2003. These states produced over 99 percent of the turkeys raised in 2002. Intentions for the top seven producing States compared with 2002 are as follows: Minnesota up 2 percent, North Carolina down 3 percent, Arkansas and Missouri down 2 percent, Virginia down 5 percent, California down 10 percent, and Indiana unchanged.

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Turkeys: Number Raised in 2001 and 2002 1/

State	Number		2002 as % of 2001
	2001	2002	
	----- 1,000 Head -----		Percent
AR	27,000	29,500	109
CA	18,700	17,700	95
CT	5	7	140
DE	4	3	75
IL	2,900	2,900	100
IN	14,000	13,000	93
IA	7,100	6,800	96
MD	460	435	95
MA	74	68	92
MI	4,500	4,800	107
MN	44,000	44,000	100
MO	24,000	25,500	106
NH	6	5	83
NJ	44	34	77
NY	510	520	102
NC	43,000	45,500	106
ND	1,600	1,900	119
OH	4,800	5,400	113
PA	9,500	9,900	104
SC	9,200	9,900	108
SD	4,900	4,800	98
VT	45	46	102
VA	24,000	20,000	83
WV	4,100	3,600	88
Oth Sts 2/	27,611	26,111	95
US	272,059	272,429	100

1/ Revised.

2/ CO, KS, NE, OK, OR, TX, UT, and WI combined to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Turkeys: Number Raised in 2002 and Intentions for 2003,
Selected States and 23 State Total

State	Number		2003 as % of 2002
	2002	2003	
	----- 1,000 Head -----		Percent
AR	29,500	29,000	98
CA	17,700	16,000	90
IL	2,900	2,900	100
IN	13,000	13,000	100
IA	6,800	7,000	103
MI	4,800	4,800	100
MN	44,000	45,000	102
MO	25,500	25,000	98
NC	45,500	44,000	97
ND	1,900	2,100	111
OH	5,400	5,300	98
PA	9,900	9,900	100
SC	9,900	9,700	98
SD	4,800	5,200	108
VA	20,000	19,000	95
WV	3,600	3,600	100
Oth Sts 1/	26,100	23,950	92
23 State Total:	271,300	265,450	98

1/ CO, KS, NE, OK, TX, UT, and WI combined to avoid disclosing individual operations.

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